

HOPE FOR LOCAL BILLS.

LEXOW AND O'CONNOR LIKELY TO MAKE
A SHOW OF ADVANCING THEM

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR SANTON BELIEVE
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FURTHER REPUBLICAN OPPOSITION - BROOKLYN LEGISLATION-THE OUTLOOK FOR

ELECTORAL REFORM.
Albany, April 14 (Special).—Governor Morton is so determined that the Legislature shall make a forward movement with the New-York reform bills this week that the followers of Thomas C. Platt apparently think they must permit these measures to escape from their retarding grasp for a brief season, at least. It is anticipated, therefore, that Senator Lexow will make a demonstration in the Senate of desiring to push forward the Bipartisan Police bill and the Political Reorganization bill, and that Senator O'Connor will make a similar move in the Assembly.

nor, after deriving the Police Justices Removal bill of one of its most valuable features, will graciously permit that measure to escape from the dungeon in which it has been imprisoned since March 28—the Senate Judiciary Committee's room—and will seek to advance it to a third reading. No one here, however, will believe that Mr. Platt's followers sincerely desire these measures to become laws, until they are out of the Legislature's hands and in those of Governor Morton.

Lieutenant-Governor Saxton, in all the ways of action which are legitimate to one occupying his official position, is laboring most loyally in support of the policy of Governor Morton to bring forward most rapidly the New-York reform bills. Mr. Saxton lives here in State-st., in a house which faces the pretty little park east of the State Capitol. Looking out upon this park and then over at the Capitol to-day, while engaged in a talk about the New-York bills, Mr. Saxton said, reflectively:

If my memory does not betray me, it was the

Circumlocution Office in "Little Dorrit" where the art of "How not to do it" was practiced in its perfection. It is not a matter of "style" but of "substance" by an American people; and I therefore hope it will not become one of the permanent accomplishments of the State Capitol. Take these New-York City reform bills. I have on my table a bill which would have changed the character of last fall's election. The Republican Legislature was a result of that reform movement, which was one of the most remarkable in the history of the nation. If, nevertheless, the Legislature has failed, I fear, to the most marked expectations of the people. The session will probably end in four or five weeks, and really nothing will be accomplished. Especially is this true in regard to New-York City matters. There are certain measures that are imperatively demanded by the people, and which are of the greatest importance to the city. If there is one duty more than another that presses upon this Legislature it is to improve and destroy, as far as possible, every condition that is a source of danger to the city. There have been lost sight of for one instant in a quarrel over patronage. We in the Legislature, it seems to me, must not make the mistake of thinking it sufficient to divide the spoils. The people are indifferent upon this question of reforming the government of New-York. They are watching our course very closely, and if we fail to count in due time. Fortunately, the record of the Legislature is not yet completed. There is still time in which our party could, in the eyes of the people, but there is not to be further delay.

Mr. Saxton answered:

I think that the Police bills will probably pass without further Republican opposition. The prospects are also much brighter for the Education and Justice Removal bill than they were last week. No Republican Senator can oppose that act without wounding the party, injuring his party and clouding his own political future. This Police Magistracy act will probably pass this week in substantially its present form. There are other New York bills also that ought to pass immediately. I can see no good reason for further delaying the passage of the School bill or the Legal Salary bill.

Lieutenant-Governor Saxton then, in reply to an inquiry of The Tribune correspondent, said that while he was in Brooklyn lately he had perceived there were widespread Republican differences regarding a large number of bills which had been introduced in the Legislature changing the city's form of government and transferring political patronage. Commenting upon these bills and other measures of like character, Mr. Saxton

One reason, and I think the chief reason, why the Democratic party met with so great a disaster last fall is found in the fact that the Democratic Governor and Legislature had prostituted the power entrusted to them, by efforts to build up a faction and a machine. We must not follow in their footsteps. The great danger that confronts this Legislature is the disposition on the part of some to consider the interests of the Republican organization in this or that city as paramount to all others. I believe in party organization, but

When it comes to the issue of an organ law against the people, my sympathies are with the people. We will commit a stupendous blunder even from a partisan point of view, if we legislate for any person or faction at the people's expense.

The correspondent inquired:

What are the prospects of Ballot Reform and Election Reform laws generally?

The Lieutenant-Governor answered:

There has been no change of importance made in the disposition of Election laws

But yet by the Legislature, and on the part of the people, a Blanket Ballot law is a certainty. Personally, I prefer the form of ballot proposed in the Sanger bill, with the names of the candidates grouped alphabetically under the titles of the offices; but there seems to be an overwhelming sentiment in favor of the party-column ballot, and that will probably be approved by the Legislature. Senator Raines has spent a great deal of labor on his bill, and it seems to be in very good shape, with one exception. It provides that an illiterate voter can take a friend with him into the election booth to take

If that is adopted, it will open the doors wide to frauds on the franchise; and I am hoping, therefore, that only the election officers will be permitted thus to aid illiterate voters. My own opinion is that the bill, without the provision mentioned, adequately protects the illiterates, except, perhaps, those mythical ones who want to split their ticket.

If it is necessary for some one to go in the booth with them, it seems to me we ought to follow the precedents of other States and place

This duty upon sworn election officers. There is one other thing in this line that the Legislature should not fail to do. The Republican party is pledged to a better and stronger Corrupt Practices act. The Governor recommended it in his message. The people are anxious for it. The Legislature ought to adjourn until it has taken this important step in the direction of a clean ballot and honest elections.

ELEVEN PERSONS BAPTIZED IN THE SOUND

The largest baptism ever witnessed at Cold Spring Harbor took place yesterday at 3 o'clock. Eleven persons were immersed in the harbor waters at Main-st. The Rev. S. L. Cox, pastor of the Baptist Church, of Cold Spring Harbor, conducted the services, and 1500 people witnessed the ceremonies. The people baptized were George Cox, Percy Bunce, William Remson, Hiram Brown, Frank Barrett, Percy Doty, Edna and Charles George Mason, Mr. George Mason, Anna Smith and Mabel Van Arsdale.

WAR BETWEEN CATTLEMEN AND SETTLERS.
Perry, O. T., April 14.—Serious trouble prevails in Beaver County in the extreme western portion of Oklahoma between homestead settlers and the cattlemen. Cattlemen have fenced in the homesteaders' farms, and every day brings fresh reports of killings and battles between the warring factions. Many complaints have gone to the Secretary of the Interior, and Special Agent Poe has arrived at Beaver to make investigations. The cattlemen own 90 per cent of the farms in this large county have been taken

by the settlers. The factions meet April 29 to see
if a settlement can be had